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DE RUEHSO #0152 0571255
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FM AMCONSUL SAO PAULO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6476
INFO RHEHNSC/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY 7579
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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA: IRAN'S NUCLEAR

PROGRAM; SAO PAULO

## "All Against All"

Liberal, largest national circulation daily Folha de S. Paulo (2/14) editorialized: "The fact that Iran simply ignored the UN Security Council order to suspend its uranium enrichment program was not a surprise.... According to information available, Iran is at least five years away from producing some nuclear arsenal due to technological and industrial deficiencies. This fact should be taken into consideration by the representatives of the UNSC permanent members who will begin discussing on Monday another resolution against Tehran. There has been speculation about supposed plans by the Bush administration to attack Iran. Israel would also be increasingly inclined to carry out a 'preventive attack' such as the bombing that destroyed Iraq's nuclear reactor in 1981. Few actions would be capable of worsening the situation in the Middle East. One of them would be a military attack against Iran, which would transform the region into a war stageinvolving all against all. Dissuading Israel fro attacking Iran and at the same time increasing iplomatic sanctions against Tehran is the most prudnt path to follow.' McMullen